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Guid Blyton's

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THE YELLOW TRUMPETS

Illustrated by Kim Raymond and Andrew Grey



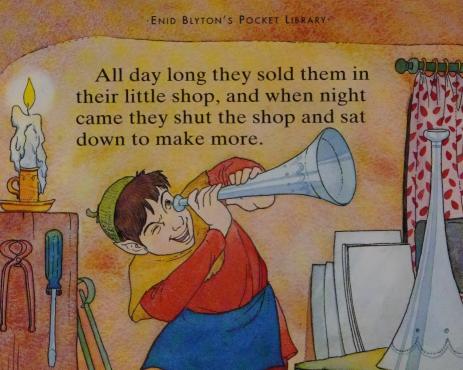


Once upon a time there were two little elves who lived in Fairyland and made trumpets. They made all sorts of lovely trumpets – big ones, little ones, long ones, short ones, white ones, red ones and blue ones.

They sold them as fast as they made them, because the baby fairies loved blowing them, and were always coming to buy them.

"One penny, please," said Flip, giving a brownie a red one.







Soon every fairy baby, little elf, and tiny pixie had a trumpet, and you should have heard the noise in the streets and houses of Fairyland.

"Tan-tan-tara! Tan-tan-tara!"

It was the baby trumpeters blowing their trumpets.

The older fairies didn't mind at first. They liked the babies to amuse themselves and have fun. They put up with the noise and laughed.



But one day Pinkle discovered a way to make a trumpet which made such a loud noise that any passerby nearly jumped out of his skin when he heard it!

It was a large, wide, yellow trumpet, beautifully made. Pinkle was very pleased with it.

"Flip!" he called. "Come here, and see my new trumpet!"

Flip hurried to see it. Pinkle showed the trumpet to him, then



hid himself behind the window curtains.

When a gnome came hurrying by the window, carrying his morning's shopping, Pinkle blew his yellow trumpet loudly.

"Tan-tan-tan-TARA!" it went, right in the gnome's ear. He had never in his life heard such a tremendous noise.

He jumped into the air in fright, dropped his basket of shopping, and went scurrying down the street as fast as he could, feeling quite sure that some dreadful animal was roaring at him.

Pinkle and Flip laughed till they cried.

"Let's show the trumpet to the babies!" said Pinkle. "They're sure to want one each, and we will charge them sixpence!"

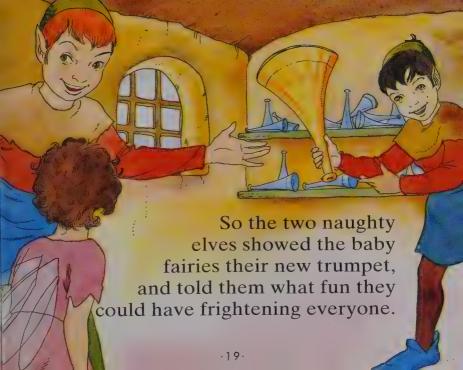
"Oh yes," said Flip in delight.

"Then we will be so rich that we'll











So the two elves set to work, and by the next day they had made twelve, and sold them all for sixpence each.

Then what a noise there was in the streets of Fairyland!



The new trumpets nearly deafened everyone, and made people jump in fright.

"This won't do at all," said the King of the fairies. "We must stop this. We don't mind the little trumpets, but these big trumpets are too noisy. Pinkle and Flip must not make any more."

So a message was sent to tell the two elves they must not make any more of the big yellow trumpets.



They were terribly disappointed. What a shame not to make any more, just as they were getting so rich through selling them! Oh dear, oh dear!

Pinkle and Flip talked about the message very crossly, and then Flip suddenly whispered something in Pinkle's big left ear:

"Let's go on making them and selling them anyway. We'll tell the customers to come at night, and no

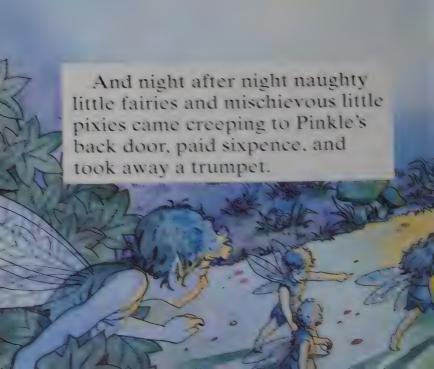
one will know. Shall we, Pinkle?" Pinkle nodded.

"Yes! We won't take any notice of their silly message. We'll make lots and lots more, and sell them every night when it's dark."

So when their little customers came to the shop, the naughty elves whispered to them to come and buy their yellow trumpets at midnight, if they really badly wanted them.











At last the older fairies became really angry. They couldn't even sleep at night because of all the noise. But although they watched Pinkle and Flip's shop carefully every single day, they never once saw the elves sell one of those big yellow trumpets that made such a dreadful noise. They couldn't understand it. Where did the trumpets come from if Pinkle and Flip didn't make them?

"I know what we'll do," said one of the fairies. "We'll go to Flip and Pinkle's shop, and search it from top to bottom. Then we shall know if they have been making the trumpets. If they haven't, we must look somewhere else! We'll go as soon as the shop is open tomorrow!"

Now, that night when a little elf came to buy a trumpet, he told them what he had heard, and the two naughty elves were terribly frightened.



They knew that if they were found out, they might be sent right away from Fairyland, and they didn't want *that* to happen.

"What shall we do, what shall we do?" cried Pinkle. "We've nowhere to hide the trumpets!"

Flip thought for a minute.

"I know," he said, "We'll hide them in the fields. Quick, bring as many as you can!"

The two elves hurried out to the

fields, where a great many yellow flowers were growing.

"If we stick our trumpets into the middle of these yellow flowers, no one will guess where they are!" said Flip. "Come on!"

And quickly he began pushing a big yellow trumpet into each yellow-petalled flower. They matched beautifully!

When all the trumpets were hidden, the two elves went back to





their shop. It was just time to open it, so they unbolted the door.

In came the King of the fairies, and told Pinkle and Flip they were going to search the house from top to bottom.



"Certainly!" said Pinkle politely. "Please do! You won't find a single yellow trumpet here!"

And they didn't! Not one! But just as they were going away again, feeling very puzzled, a pixie came running in.

"Come and see the lovely yellow flowers in the field!" he cried. "They are wonderful! We've never seen anything like them before!" Off went everyone to see them, and Pinkle and Flip were taken along too.

But when the fairies looked at them carefully, they saw what made the flowers look strange and beautiful – they each had a yellow trumpet in the midst of their petals!

"So *that's* where you hid them, you rascals!" cried the fairies, and caught hold of Pinkle and Flip angrily. "Out of Fairyland you shall go!"

"No, no!" wept Pinkle and Flip



miserably. "Please let us stay. We'll never, never, NEVER make big yellow trumpets again!"

Suddenly a fairy had a great idea.

"I know!" he cried. "Let's allow Pinkle and Flip to go on making their trumpets for these flowers! See how much more beautiful they are with the long trumpets in the middle!"

"Yes, yes!" cried all the fairies and pixies.



You have seen them often, for daffodils grow in everybody's garden – and if you look carefully at them next springtime, you will see how beautifully Pinkle and Flip have made their yellow trumpets.









